

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An encoder and an encoding method capable of greatly improving the transfer efficiency in encoding processings. A read control means determines the number of removed bit planes in order that the quantity of generated codes per frame is kept constant when each encoding means performs an encoding processing. A predetermined number of bit planes corresponding to those parts of information that seem relatively small to users are thus removed, and accordingly, the encoder can prevent variation of processing time in a stage before each encoding means performs an encoding processing.